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Senator Kennedy

talks to

Hugh Fraser, page 12

Air raids on guerrilla bases precede arrival of Governor

Salisbury's jet aircraft have attacked into Zambia and Mozambique hoping to stop Patriotic Front guerrillas entering Zimbabwe Rhodesia. The raids came while final

preparations for British rule were being made in expectation that the Governor-designate would arrive on Wednesday. The Patriotic Front were quick to condemn the raids

Salisbury to rush through Bill restoring British rule

From Nicholas Astford

Salisbury, Dec 9

Zimbabwe Rhodesia's aircraft attacked guerrilla bases in Zambia and Mozambique early today while in Salisbury preparations went ahead for the arrival later this week of Lord Soames, the British Governor-designate, and for the passing through of a parliamentary Bill providing for the return of the rebel territory to British rule.

According to a Combined Operations Headquarters communiqué, the air strikes into Zambia were carried out because captured guerrillas had said that Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army (Zpura) was trying to send as many insurgents as possible into the country in order to escalate the war.

The communiqué stated that the targets consisted of Zpura staging posts in which large numbers of guerrillas had grouped in preparation for incursions into Zimbabwe Rhodesia. It said that all targets were "terrorist bases" and contained no refugees or Zambian forces.

A second communiqué issued later in the day said that the raids into Mozambique had been against bases used by Mr Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (Zana).

The fact that Zimbabwe Rhodesia should have carried out such attacks only days before the country is to come under direct British rule is an indication of the Patriotic Government's concern at the extent of Patriotic Front infiltration. Official sources put the number of active guerrillas now operating inside the country at about 17,000 although the Zimbabwe Rhodesian delegation in London is saying the figure is even higher.

According to a British spokesman in Salisbury, Lord Soames and his retinue of political

Outrageous, Patriotic Front says

The air strikes by Zimbabwe Rhodesia were immediately condemned by Patriotic Front delegates in London as "outrageous."

Mr Willie Muzorewa, Mr Joshua Nkomo's chief spokesman, said: "The Rhodesians are not serious about a ceasefire. They are raiding our bases. They talk about peace while they prepare for war."

Dr Eddie Zvobgo, chief spokesman for Mr Robert Mugabe's wing of the Patriotic Front, said: "This confirms our belief that the Rhodesian forces will be ready to massacre our people if we accept this plan for so-called Assembly places."

"They obviously believe that, can wipe out our forces if we were foolish enough to accept this plan."

He said that if the Patriotic Front's forces moved into the assembly points proposed by the British, the Zimbabwe Rhodesians "on the slightest pretext of a ceasefire breach"

George VI accession speech withdrawn from auction

By Stewart Teabold
A copy of King George VI's accession speech, partly written in his own hand, was withdrawn yesterday from a Sotheby's auction after protests from the Privy Council Office.

The speech is part of a collection submitted as "the property of a gentleman" for sale at an auction on December 17. Sotheby's have been told by the Privy Council Office that the speech should not be in private hands but belongs in the office's archives, the Palace archives or the Public Records Office.

Mr Peter Wilson, chairman of Sotheby's, said last night: "The company has no option in the interests of the vendor but to withdraw certain documents from the sale, including the accession speech of George VI, pending the problem being resolved as regards title. Sotheby and Company, as auctioneers, are not in a position to evaluate the various claims laid to this property."

The speech addressed to the Privy Council as accession council, is partly printed but below the text King George has

added a paragraph announcing that his brother would in future be known as the Duke of Windsor. In one corner there is a note saying "the King's own Privy Council Office."

The speech and a number of other royal papers were originally in the hands of Sir Edward Lees-Smith, who died as a clerk in the Privy Council in 1951. At the time of the abdication crisis he was deputy clerk.

When Sir Edward died in 1971 his estate passed to his wife, who died four years later. In her will she left some red dispatch boxes which belonged to her husband, to Mr David Swanson, a Sussex solicitor and executor of her will.

Mr Swanson was not available yesterday to comment on the auction or the protests of the Privy Council Office.

These began last week when Mr Neville Leigh, clerk to the council, was told about the speech after publication of the auction catalogue. He spoke to Sotheby's and asked them to discuss the matter with the anonymous vendor.

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Commercial Properties and Services to the Business World

Landscaped sites for office blocks

Office buildings in landscaped parks or campuses are more commonly found in America than in this country, but one or two such developments have been carried out here, and now work has started on another.

Capital and Counties Property is developing its four-acre Riverside office site in Lewisham town centre, South London.

The £4.5m first stage now being built will have a building on six floors to provide 67,000 sq ft of fully air-conditioned and double glazed offices. Completion is due in the autumn of 1981.

A further 35,000 sq ft is planned for the second stage, although the developers might consider an earlier start if there is a potential tenant for the entire 132,000 sq ft.

The whole setting is being landscaped, with existing trees being retained and

many new semi-mature trees and shrubs being planted as well.

The site is beside the River Ravensbourne, and a mid-nineteenth-century water mill will be restored and converted into a restaurant.

An operating reproduction of the original mill wheel will be a feature, and the mill pond will be renovated. The whole scheme will be linked by a pedestrian bridge to Lewisham's modern shopping

Architects for the development are Sir Frederick Gibberd and Partners. The letting agents are Debenham Tewson and Cimino and the main contractor for the first phase is Y. J. Lovell.

The freehold of the site is owned by the London Borough of Lewisham which has granted a ground lease of 125 years to Capital and Counties.

In Bournemouth, work has begun on a £1.25m, 60,000 sq ft six-storey office block in Christchurch Road, one of the main office areas of the town. The scheme is being carried out by Artagen Properties, the property development and management arm of Sun Life Assurance Society, which acquired the site last July.

Completion of the block is

due at the end of next year, when it will provide some 19,000 sq ft of offices, together with on-site car parking. Design is by John Laing Design Associates and the main contractor is Ernest Ireland Construction.

Lalonde Bros and Parham of Bristol introduced the site to Sun Life, and have been retained as letting agents. When completed the building will be kept in Sun Life's expanding property portfolio.

In the industrial sector,

Cadbury Schweppes Pension Fund has paid £570,000 for a freehold site of two acres at Millford Road, Reading, part of an industrial estate. The fund will also finance a warehouse or industrial development on the site.

The land was acquired from Rockfort Land, of Reading, who are to carry out the scheme which will consist of four units of just under 6,000 sq ft each, and one large unit of about 20,000 sq ft to be divisible and with a high office content. Construction is to begin in a few weeks, with completion by the middle of next year.

Strutt and Parker and Market

Edward Erdman and Co, the letting agents, are expecting rents of £3 a sq ft. Strutt and Parker acted for Cadbury Schweppes in the purchase and funding, and Richard Ellis represented Rockfort Land.

Chantrey Keys Industrial Estates and Embassy Developments—two property companies based in Birmingham—have joined forces to develop about six acres of land off the Nechells Parkway, Birmingham.

It has some 63,000 sq ft of

space in 12 individual units in three terraces. The units, ranging in size from 2,310 sq ft to 8,100 sq ft, are to be completed next December. Letting will be through King and Co and Leighton Goldsmith.

The scheme, which is to be

known as the Market Trading Estate, is being carried out by Rush and Tompkins in association with the London Borough of Hounslow.



Artist's impression of the office campus development in Lewisham.

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Senator Edward Kennedy on tour talks to Hugh Fraser, MP

The battle starts in Iowa, but lasts all summer

The day had been gruelling, moving in the scrum of security and media people, aides and outriders, each of us dubbed with a little yellow identity tag. The police department was taking to chances in a Los Angeles where, 11 years before, Bobby Kennedy had been assassinated. By the evening, as we sat together for a late meal, only Senator Edward Kennedy seemed humorous, imperturbable and, unlike most political figures, relaxed and unpompous.

Hugh Fraser: Thank you for seeing me for *The Times*. You've had a bad press in the United Kingdom.

Edward Kennedy: So I hear. Very personalized and even vicious, and what's more important, I'm told they're calling me inflationist, isolationist, anti-European, weak on defence, soft on Russia, and then Ireland, of course. Don't you want to kiss me about Ulster?

Fraser: No. I'm a British politician. Ulster may have an Irish dimension, but I am not. Ulster is part of an American one, and, if it has, it's been constantly maligned. I'd just like to record the restraining influence you've had on some of our colleagues. And, I'm glad to read that that hate raiser, Congressman Biagi, is not for you but strong for President Carter.

Kennedy: Well then, I suppose we'd better stick to the apparently slightly more pleasant subject of me.

Fraser: You've had a great campaigning day. Crowds were enthusiastic. Your speech on reform to the Bar Association was witty and important and got a standing ovation. At the Hispanic group dinner 1,200 people were ecstatic, yet my press colleagues tell me that you're lost momentum and that your television interview with Roger Mudd of CBS, where he kept harping on Chappaquiddick, was a real setback.

Kennedy: I agree the Mudd interview was well below par. But, as you've seen, the campaign has

reverted to the Mudd action over the recent public identification of Soviet combat units in Cuba was precisely and typically the wrong way to respond. I can think of no sensible sequence than that of first creating an unnecessary crisis by concealing facts, of heightening that crisis by admiring them under duress, of then declaring and proclaiming

a crisis, although it was entirely of your own making, and finally, trying to kill your own audience to the Soviet Cuban alliance as a diplomatic triumph. With Russia it is no good talking tough, and acting weak.

Fraser: Looking ahead, where do you see the major geopolitical problems of the 1980s?

Kennedy: Undoubtedly, in what we call the system of the Third World. New evaluations are needed. The Russians don't seem to have so much trouble. But look at Iran and those hostages: what help to them are all the American rockets and armaments in the world? New techniques, new shortages of raw materials, new balances demand new, firmer, and clearer policies and broader friendships. The developed and the under-developed economies have simply got to find a modus vivendi.

Kennedy: My views on the Shah are well known. American lives are at stake. Every Ameri-

can at this time has got to support the President. Lessons of course are being learnt and, I am afraid, the hard way. And, very, very soon we are spending 10 per cent more. Unless we reorganise, the nation's health will be hit and pockets emptied.

Fraser: It is fair to say your economic policy puts more emphasis on supply than on demand management?

Kennedy: Certainly. That comes a point when high interest rates, restricting investment and reducing supply become positively inflationary.

Fraser: Could we now turn to the economic accusations that you are cashing in on a United States recession, and with inflationary economic solutions?

Kennedy: Well, as far as the recession is concerned, it is the White House who seem to be gloomer than the if anyone is cashing in on a future campaign, it is them. As for inflationary programmes, my opponents cite national health insurance, which I have been fighting. Yet figures show that projected over a four-year period, it is the

cheapest way ahead.

Fraser: What about your South American neighbours?

Kennedy: Well, no one can be happy with the way we have sourced relations with Mexico through foolish tough talk on the one hand, or the weakness we are showing to the regime in Chile, or the support we have given to little crackpot tyrannical Central American regimes.

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FIRST ENCOUNTER

The Government will this week at the South-West Hertfordshire by-election face its first electoral test since the general election. It will do so in better shape than would have been the case even a week or so ago—though it would be rash to assume that this improvement in the impression created by the Government will be reflected at the polls. The Rhodesia settlement is a diplomatic achievement of the first order, promising an agreement that had eluded British statesmen of both main parties for so long. The Dublin summit was, by contrast, a diplomatic fiasco, but one where the Prime Minister was seen to be representing a popular British interest with considerable vigour, so it should not have diminished her public standing.

On both these issues there may be greater difficulties ahead than are now generally foreseen. Much has to be done before the agreements of the negotiating table can be translated into a degree of orderly government in Rhodesia, that would permit Britain finally to divest itself of responsibility without international opprobrium. On the EEC Mrs Thatcher may find that it is much harder to maintain her popular stance if substantial concessions are not made over Britain's budget contribution by her European partners in the diplomatic negotiations that are now getting under way. In that case she may have to choose between accepting a more modest improvement than the general public have come to expect or applying sanctions of a severity that would disturb a number of her colleagues. But for the moment both Rhodesia and, to a lesser extent, Dublin must both be marked down as a plus for the public reputation of the Government.

Then there has been the miners' vote to accept their pay

offer. At one level there is no cause for rejoicing over a settlement as high as 20 per cent. That will do nothing to bring down the rate of increases in the current payround, though it is at least an indication to other unions that not even the miners regard the sky as the limit. But there was never much chance that the Government's strategy for controlling incomes would be successful in the first round.

This strategy depends upon restricting the amount of money available so that the unions know that, if they insist upon inflationary wage settlements they will simply be pricing some of their members out of jobs.

It was always a forlorn hope that the unions could be persuaded to accept this logic as soon as Mrs Thatcher had walked into Downing Street. Such a conversion could be expected to come about only as the unions began to recognize the grim consequences of one largely unrestrained pay round.

The miners' settlement does not prove that this is happening.

But the fact that the miners voted for acceptance against the recommendation of their executive, combined with the earlier vote for the reconstruction plan at British Leyland, does suggest that even in publicly owned industries union members are coming to be aware of the discipline of market forces.

The developments in the steel industry do not, it is true, point in the same direction. But it is too early to assume either that the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation will go ahead with their threatened strike, or that if they do it will be successful. A rise of a few percentage points above the present two per cent offer would be damaging for the industry, which is in such a parlous condition, but that would

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Then there has been the miners' vote to accept their pay

PEKING'S BLANK WALL

The closure of Peking's democracy wall will disappoint those who saw in the posters it bore the first shoots of freedom in China; a clear-headed demand for democracy is not the communist fiction that disguises it as democratic centralism. Following the fifteen-year sentence on Mr Wei-Jinsheng in October, the tight rules that now govern this expression of public opinion will silence all but those ready to risk a charge of counter-revolution and almost inevitable prison sentence.

For some reasons the setback may only be temporary. When Mr Wei was arrested last March it was soon apparent that Mr Deng Xiaoping's triumph three months earlier had drawn a fierce counter-attack from those still able to damage him. His measures of political relaxation, of economic enterprise freed from political dogma, together with the agreement that at last brought an American embassy to Peking, had all had their opponents. Yet when the votes were counted in the central committee Mr Deng won the day. Unfortunately the danger of disorder quickly became obvious. Rioting in Shanghai, protest sit-ins in the heart of Peking, unrest

among the new intake in many universities all imposed caution. His opponents were to be fended off; he must cede where he was weakest. The economy mattered, more than cries for political liberty.

Paradoxically, repression in one quarter is matched by a demand for democracy in another. The party stalwarts returning to Peking after two decades of Maoist dictatorial behaviour are all agreed—not least Mr Deng himself—that never again must the party be run in Mao's way: adding his own followers at will to his politburo, packing central committee plenums, postponing due congresses until he could engineer the support he needed. Only democratic and constitutional procedures will restore good faith and give merit its due. At the centre of power democracy is henceforth to rule. This may not mean much. Counting heads in the party will not seem the same as the questioning of such dogmas as proletarian dictatorship. Seeking truth from the facts should nevertheless lead to seeking reality behind the words—and in the long run must do.

Mr Deng argues that the economy must be the supreme objective after two decades of political behaviour.

barbarities, and the electors will chasten them every yard of the way. Yet the facts do not fit neatly into such a simple scheme. First, the Council of Ministers, who have refused to accept the European Parliament's draft of the Commission's budget, are not democratically elected; and as Ministers they carry responsibility for the domestic policies of the countries of the Nine. That is why the United Kingdom voted with the majority in the Council. Among other things, the switch of Community spending from agriculture to other policies would have meant increased public spending by the United Kingdom, because in general you do not get Community financial support.

Fourthly, we must be allowed to doubt whether the European Parliament's rejection of the budget this week will mean what it appears to mean. For the past two years Strasbourg has rejected the Council budget at its December meeting; and before the new year or soon after, a few crumbs have dropped from the Council of Ministers' table and the budget has quietly gone through. Over enthusiastic new Euro-MPs must not be permitted to go on saying that "rejection is unprecedented", except in the sense that for the first time the Parliament's right to switch expenditure from CAP to other things.

Immediately, then, the question arises, who knows best about the needs of a country of the Nine—its domestic parliament, or the European Parliament? No wonder Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, when he met the United Kingdom's Conservative Euro-MPs last week, mumbled that rejection of the budget would be a rather dramatic step for such a young parliament to take; and no wonder Conservative old hands in Strasbourg are dropping hints that the European Democratic group must not appear weak by taking the lead this week.

Secondly, some of the politically less experienced or more militant European MPs from the United Kingdom, Socialist as well as Conservative, fully believe that by throwing out the Council budget for 1980 they will be supporting what is now virtually bipartisan policy at Westminster. Mrs Thatcher's demand for the refund of about £1,000m to bring receipts into line with outgoings.

Not so. Mrs Thatcher has agreed to a respite in her demands until February or March when the next summit meeting will be called by the Italian Prime Minister, and her Government does not want the budget to be rejected. The Council budget, like the whole Community, will be back to the 1979 budget, living from hand to mouth month by month, with no money to pay members of staff who already have been engaged.

This alone provides the Council of Ministers with a fairly strong negotiating position. In fact, the rejection of the Council's version of the budget would create a Community crisis too early in the directly-elected Parliament's life, while it is still weak and tentative, while all the quintessential political power still resides with the governments of the Nine. As publicity, good. As practical politics, nearly useless.

David Wood

Too young to test the EEC's real politik

Ron Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, a lifelong champion of the arts and crafts policies, delivered a warning on direct elections to the European Parliament took place. You can't elect a committee, a commission, an assembly of any kind, be without its using the powers it been given or its taking powers; he made clear that he feared the European Parliament would be this. This week in Strasbourg, half see his prophecy fulfilled, as there is a sudden change of, or a sudden attack of, faint of heart, all the main groups in the Parliament will combine to the Community budget sent like tablets from the Sinai of council of Ministers.

Socialist group, the Christian Democrat group, and the Anglo-Conservative group are all in line today. They have in hands, they say, the ultimate that allows them to reject unmissed budget as redrafted by the Council, and elector has at last given the authority to use it. Disincentive and wasteful spending common agricultural policy and transport, social policy, regional development fund, and so on.

It seems fine enough. Super-savers and students, of course, development through may be tempted to here we see a Parliament, the old, old path of no without redress of grievous taxation without representation, a political power residing for box. Let the European budget and build the

still be well below the general level of settlements. What matters is whether forces are now at work that will lead to a decline in inflation in, say, a year's time.

That is also the best way to judge the severe increase in interest and mortgage rates. In themselves they are just about the surest way for any government to incur unpopularity. If they were to be a lasting feature of life under Mrs Thatcher this administration would be doomed.

But the purpose of such disastrous measures is to squeeze inflation out of the economy. It is no use supposing that this could be done painlessly, and if it can be achieved in large measure within a reasonable period of time then the economic relief will be such as to give an excellent opportunity for a lasting improvement in Britain's performance.

Such hopes depend considerably upon how effectively public expenditure can be cut. At the moment the Government has managed to attract a good deal of public opinion for economies that will not reduce the total level of public spending in the next financial year below its present rate. The modest savings in Civil Service manpower announced at the end of last week have strengthened dissatisfaction over the Government's performance in this field. So there is now the prospect not only of failing to continue the process of cutting income tax, which was begun so spectacularly in the Government's first Budget, but even of possible tax increases having to go up. The Government's ability to build on the good impression that has now been created in a number of fields will be influenced very largely by whether it is able to get back on course in this most critical of areas.

damaging political struggle and social upheaval. In that case a degree of flexibility and independence will have to be accorded to the technical and managerial class. A bureaucracy bound by dogma cannot possibly promote the efficiency and productivity that China hopes to attain certainly not by the end of this century. Since openness is now an officially approved outlook in China where economic advance is in question, it can hardly flourish without greater political freedom. In the end there must be respect for public opinion of the kind that has now been banished from the wall in Peking.

Yet the process may be slow. China is a country that has never encouraged, but done much to repress, the cultivation of individual opinions; it has regarded opposition to constituted authority as immoral; it looks to harmony within the group as the first duty in shaping social order—it is not thirty years of communism but rather more than a thousand years of Confucianism that inhibits democracy in China. It is one thing to be convinced by democratic arguments; quite another to discard instincts, upbringing and a very long tradition of political behaviour.

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Local authorities have a discretion whether to award a grant to a graduate wishing to attend a course to qualify as a solicitor or a barrister. The practice of local authorities varies but a few have decided to make no awards for these courses in wholly exceptional circumstances. Because of the variation of practice among local authorities the result is unfair to the students and is felt by them to be unfair. One may receive an award and another not, depending entirely on the part of the country in which his home happens to be.

A student who is refused a grant and whose parents are unwilling or unable to support him or who—reasonably enough, for he is likely to be aged 22 or more—is unwilling to depend on his parents, is barred from entering the legal profession. Not only is this discriminatory and discriminatory for the student who, in many cases, will have taken a degree in law with a view to entering the profession, but it is against the public interest that entry should be limited to those with substantial means.

The Ordnance Committee on Legal Education which reported in 1971

thought it extremely important for the future of the profession that grants should be available because it visibly affects the character of the entry. The recent report of the Royal Commission on Legal Services

expresses agreement and recommends that grants for the vocational stage should be mandatory. We understand that the Council of

Local Education Authorities is of

the same opinion.

A new Education Bill is now before Parliament. We wish to urge that the opportunity should be taken to remedy this injustice and ensure a strong and able legal profession for the future by implementing the recommendations of the royal commission.

Yours faithfully,

W. P. OLIVER,

Chairman of the Committee of Heads of Polytechnic Law Schools,

J. C. SMITH,

Chairman of the Committee of Heads of University Law Schools,

University of Nottingham,

University Park,

Nottingham.

Too much hot air

From Mr Gerald Williams

Sir, In some offices in mid-winter one can see staff at their desks in shirtsleeves.

Yours faithfully,

GERALD WILLIAMS,

Crockham House,

Wesherham,

Kent.

What that link should be is perhaps not easy to see—some of us have been looking for it for

many years. Any solution will involve money. Whether or not the money which the proposed scheme requires should be found at this particular time is for Government to decide—but there is something to be said for not forgetting pre-election promises.

Yours faithfully,

DESMOND LEE,

8 Barron Close,

Cambridge.

From Dr M. A. Hooker

Sir, In her article on Friday (November 30) Diana Geddes points out that many of the Government's supporters have reservations about the assisted places scheme.

As a public school governor I

regard as specially serious the

proposal that these schools should be forbidden to incorporate in their

fees any element for capital

development. Surely each genera-

tion, inheriting from previous genera-

tions, should be expected in its turn

to finance further improvements.

Having in my past career been

professionally involved in several hundred school fund-raising cam-

paigns, I am not likely to under-

estimate the value of the voluntary

element but I do not believe that

all additional improvements to

plant should be paid for by those

parents and others who choose to

be generous.

It would be particularly difficult

for most voluntary aided grammar

schools joining the scheme to over-

come this difficulty.

Yours etc,

MICHAEL A. HOOKER,

10 Myddelton Gardens,

Winchmore Hill, N12.

December 3.

first step should be an unequivocal

statement by the government that

volunteers will be welcome;

the next is that a register of properly

qualified men and women should

be opened under regional authori-

ties. I could not agree more with

your correspondence that there

should be regular training of emer-

gency operations staff. Our informa-

tion is that in many areas, emer-

gency plans do not exist even on

paper—much less on the ground.

The best way to avoid confronta-

tion is to show resolution.

Yours faithfully,

IAN W. HOGG,

Chairman, UNISON Committee,

The Old Mill,

Wendover,

Buckinghamshire.

November 30.

Heavenly music

From Canon Paul Oestreich

Sir, From other reviews I should

not have guessed that in *Amedeus*

Peter Shaffer is wrestling with the

divine mystery of Mozart. With

WEST EUROPE

Dutch in last-minute Bonn talks on weapons

From Robert Schul

Amsterdam, Dec 9

The Dutch Cabinet will meet tomorrow to decide what attitude to adopt on modernization of Nato's theatre nuclear forces in Europe.

Before the Cabinet makes up its mind, in the light of last Thursday's parliamentary vote of an outright rejection of modernization, Mr Andries van Agt, the Prime Minister, and Mr. Christof van der Klaauw, the Foreign Minister, will travel to Bonn for last-minute talks tomorrow afternoon with Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister.

A Government spokesman in The Hague announced that the meeting in Bonn had been arranged at the request of Mr van Agt. The unexpected announcement came only a few hours after the Dutch Prime Minister and his Foreign Minister returned from Washington yesterday after talks with President Carter and Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State.

Mr van Agt, who has been called "Holland's new flying Dutchman", went to the United States directly after talks with Mrs Thatcher in London on Thursday and earlier that day with his Italian colleague in Rome.

He was therefore back in the Netherlands for the first time after the parliamentary vote on Thursday night which threatens the existence of his Government.

Speaking to journalists at Amsterdam airport, Mr van Agt described the situation as "very difficult" but added that he still saw "possibilities". He refused to speculate on what the Government's stand would be in Brussels on Wednesday when the Nato Council meets to decide on the modernization of theatre nuclear forces in Europe.

"I simply don't know," he said, adding that Holland's allies would acquiesce in whatever decision the Dutch Government takes.

President Carter and Mr Vance had shown understanding of the difficult position in which the Dutch Cabinet finds itself after last Thursday's parliamentary vote, Mr van Agt said.

Political observers here are divided on the Government's chances of survival.

One possible course is that the Cabinet itself comes to the conclusion tomorrow that there is no way out and resigns.

The likeliest possibility is that a compromise solution will be found somewhere between these extremes but that will depend to a large extent on the amount of leeway the Dutch get in Brussels from their Nato allies.



About 23,000 people demonstrated in Brussels yesterday against Nato's plan to deploy new nuclear weapons in West Europe. Several nations were represented.

Four unwilling countries may mean deployment of fewer Nato missiles

By Henry Stanhope

Defence Correspondent

Nato will make its long-awaited decision this week on the deployment of new American long range nuclear weapons in Europe. At best however, this is unlikely to be the unanimous decision that the alliance has been seeking.

The United States, with the backing of its main partners wants to modernize its theatre nuclear forces (TNF) by stationing 108 Pershing 2 ballistic missiles in West Germany, and 454 ground-launched cruise missiles in five countries, 95 in West Germany, 160 in Holland, 112 in Italy, 48 in Scotland and 48 in Belgium.

The package would cost about £2,000m, and the missiles, which could reach military targets in the Soviet Union, would be ready for deployment in 1982 or 1983.

They are needed, the allies argue, to maintain the Nato strategy of "flexible response" and to counter the new Soviet SS 20 mobile missile and the Backfire Bomber.

The decision, which will be taken at a joint meeting of defence and foreign ministers in Brussels on Wednesday, will be accompanied by a related package of proposals on arms control.

Last week the Russians began to implement President Brezhnev's offer, two months ago to withdraw 1,000 tanks and 20,000 troops from east Germany in an attempt to capitalize on the split in Nato ranks and thus forestall this week's vote in Brussels.

Soviet troops from central Europe. Some could be discussed at the next stage of the strategic arms limitation talks (SALT 3) and others at the Vienna negotiations on troop reductions—which has been lingering on for six years without result.

The Americans, British, West Germans and French insist that some control proposals would be worse than useless without a parallel decision on the new weapons because the Soviet Union could dictate terms from a position of strength.

But not all of their partners agree. The Dutch Parliament voted last week against authorizing deployment of the weapons, being in favour of freezing ahead for the time being, with the arms control package on its own. The coalition government could fall if it does not comply with this anti-nuclear feeling.

The final position of the Belgian coalition is uncertain after a hostile vote by French-speaking socialists at the weekend. The Danes, only indirectly involved, want to delay a decision for six months while the Norwegian are also undecided.

These are said to include, the withdrawal of 1,000 other American nuclear warheads from Europe, reductions in theatre nuclear forces on both sides, and a withdrawal of 13,000 American and 30,000

French troops from central Europe. Some could be discussed at the next stage of the strategic arms limitation talks (SALT 3) and others at the Vienna negotiations on troop reductions—which has been lingering on for six years without result.

But neither they nor the allies will know exactly what will happen until Wednesday night. Nato sources believe that the allies will decide to go ahead with or without the support of the four doubtfuls. This might mean deploying fewer missiles than the original 572. But the numbers are less important than the achievement of some kind of consensus.

Wednesday's meeting will follow meetings of the Eurogroup today and the defence planning committee on Tuesday and Wednesday morning—but like all the best Nato stories, this one promises to be a thriller with the denouement timed for the final curtain.

Soviet criticism: The Soviet press today denounced the Nato plans. The future of Europe depends on Wednesday's decision, which could undermine the principle of deterrence, the papers said. Only the United States could benefit from the deployment of new American missiles in Western Europe.

Washington was trying to achieve military superiority, the Soviet army front newspaper, Red Star, said. According to France "to preserve the inviolability of the buildings of New York, the United States is ready to sacrifice 1,000 years of European culture". It re-affirmed that disarmament proposals made by President Brezhnev in East Berlin in October, could "open the way to negotiations over medium-range weapons". — Agence France-Presse.

Senor Fraga soft-pedals on Gibraltar

From Harry Debelius

Madrid, Dec 9

A leading Spanish right-wing politician proposed today rule for Gibraltar within the Spanish state without once mentioning the word "sovereignty" in a speech this weekend.

Senor Manuel Fraga Iribarne, leader of the Popular Alliance party and former Spanish Ambassador in London, yesterday tendered in La Linea, which borders the British Crown Colony, "The recovery of Gibraltar is a matter of interest to all Spaniards". This is not to say that the legitimate interests of the population of Gibraltar should be forgotten, much less that they should be disregarded.

Senor Fraga, a member of the Spanish Parliament and Interior Minister in the first post-Franco Government, added: "It is in the true interest of the Gibraltarians for them to ask Great Britain to negotiate with Spain".

He made it clear that the is not in favour of unilateral relaxation of Spanish measures restricting access to the Crown Colony.

A non-partisan seminar on Gibraltar in Segovia, sponsored by the Spanish Institute for International Questions, called on Madrid and London to make "the necessary gestures" towards seeking an agreement on Gibraltar.

In Madrid the only two officers formally accused in last year's alleged coup attempt, known as Operation Galaxy, were freed from prison this weekend and allowed to return home to await trial.

Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, of the Civil Guard, and Captain Ricardo Sainz de la Serna, an Army officer assigned to duty with the National Police, are accused of "conspiracy and plotting" in connection with a plot to seize Senor Suárez, the Prime Minister, and name a right-wing "Government of National Salvation".

Gaullists and Socialists plot downfall of President

From Ian Murray

Paris, Dec 9

The two largest parties at present opposing the French Government have been spending part of the weekend looking for the best way to plot the downfall of President Giscard d'Estaing at the 1981 presidential elections.

The Gaullists, the larger of the two parties, are officially part of the Government coalition and do, in fact, have the largest number of seats in the National Assembly. To their impotent fury, however, they have twice in as many weeks been outmanoeuvred by M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, who has made both the budget and the social services policy questions of confidence, when the Gaullists refused to support them.

This time prompted M. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, to write bitterly in *Le Figaro* yesterday that "in choosing to transform an exceptional weapon into a normal instrument of government, the Prime Minister had put his finger into a gearwheel which threatened, without doing any good, the balance of the public life".

If the members of the Majority were to be reduced to mere machines to vote for the Government then the 1978 election had lost all political reality, he added.

The Gaullists claim that the latest *France Soir* Ifop poll, formally accused in last year's alleged coup attempt, known as Operation Galaxy, were freed from prison this weekend and allowed to return home to await trial.

Prize for a Maginot fort

From Our Own Correspondent

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The Gaullists claim that the latest *France Soir* Ifop poll,

to working orders with its small scale railway running again and heating, the ventilation and heating working. The prize is worth 30,000 Francs (about £3,420).

The second prize of 25,000 Francs was awarded for the renovation of a seventeenth century farm at St Julian les Fosses, in the Aube. A rebuilt windmill at Offerenque near Lille, won the third prize of 20,000 Francs.

For exercises, supersonic airliners leaving Washington for Europe keep well clear of military airspace by flying north-east as far as Newfoundland before turning out over the ocean. On October 30 the United States Air Force had reserved the upper levels of the corridor for the refuelling exercise. Civilian air traffic controllers had warned the Concorde crew, but military controllers apparently overlooked telling the F15 pilots that the Concorde was in the "corridor" and the military often reserve part of it

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Fighter pilots not warned about Concorde

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent

An Air France Concorde supersonic airliner and four United States Air Force F15 fighters were involved in a close near-miss, according to an Air Force report made public in Washington during the weekend.

The incident took place over the Atlantic seaboard on October 30 as the Concorde, with 16 passengers and nine crew on board, was climbing out of

for exercises. Subsonic airliners leaving Washington for Europe keep well clear of military airspace by flying north-east as far as Newfoundland before turning out over the ocean. On October 30 the United States Air Force had reserved the upper levels of the corridor for the refuelling exercise. Civilian air traffic controllers had warned the Concorde crew, but military controllers apparently overlooked telling the F15 pilots that the Concorde was in the "corridor" and the military often reserve part of it

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OVERSEAS

American envoy doubts whether Palestinian autonomy talks can be completed by May deadline

Tel Aviv, Dec 9.—Mr Sol Linowitz, America's new envoy to the Middle East, fresh from talks with President Sadat of Egypt said today that he was not confident the May deadline for completion of the Palestinian autonomy talks could be met.

Mr Linowitz arrived at Ben-Gurion airport, Sunday night and emphasized the longstanding United States commitment to Israel's security and well-being. "This commitment was never stronger than it is today," he said. "The United States is determined in its efforts to assist the Israeli and American delegations in their negotiations."

Asked if special importance was being attached to the Sadat-Begin summit, Mr Linowitz said: "It is the intention of President Sadat to make it a worthwhile meeting and I believe this is also the intention of Prime Minister Begin."

Before leaving Cairo, Mr Linowitz said he was "optimistic" but "a little worried" about the autonomy talks.

Asked if he was confident the May deadline could be met, Mr Linowitz contrasted sharply with Mr Sadat's optimism earlier in the day when he said:

Defiant Anglican to fight apartheid despite cost

Grahamstown, South Africa, Dec 9.—The Head of the Anglican Church in Southern Africa has declared he will support church defiance of apartheid even if it leads to the break-up of the church.

Archbishop Bill Burnett of Cape Town told the synod of the South African Anglican Church in Grahamstown, last night that its decision to defy apartheid laws on matrimonial church gatherings could lead to the disintegration of the church as an institutional body.

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Soviet criticism: The Soviet press today denounced the Nato plans. The future of Europe depends on Wednesday's decision, which could undermine the principle of deterrence, the papers said. Only the United States could benefit from the deployment of new American missiles in Western Europe.

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There were loud replies of "yes" from the audience.

Asked if he was confident he would be re-elected, Mr. Linowitz said: "I am prepared to go to great lengths and take very great risks, even if it means disturbance for the church. Do I understand you to say that is what you want?"

There were loud replies of "yes" from the audience.

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PERSONAL CHOICE



got Fonteyn and company in a scene from Ashton's *Le Marguerite* and Armand which can be seen tonight in *The Magic of Dance* (BBC 2, 7.30).

be *Fat in the Fire* is the waggish sub-title of tonight's edition (BBC 2, 9.30), which makes the programme sound as inflammatory as it intends to be. It is, indeed, a calm, considered piece about what makes some people's weight when they eat no more than the lucky slim-jims in its world. It puts forward as a theory the suggestion that it is not what makes people fat, but output—*or*, the lack of output of special fat-cells called brown fat. Brown fat is plentiful enough in babies; but declines in adults. Much has shown that the fat could help to grow-ups by burning up surplus food. But how to produce a brown fat. It could, Harriet suggests, be yet another of the drug manufacturers.

be *Margot Fonteyn* series, *The Magic of Ballet* (BBC 2, 7.30), in spectacular style tonight. It has to be said of these programmes that, right from the start six weeks ago, they have attained a level of excellence that has been surprising to behold. It is in the nature of a tribute by Dame Margot to the man who choreographed some of her milestones, Sir Frederick Ashton. The programme includes an extract from Sir Frederick's recent creation for her, *Salut d'Amour*, filmed at its performance at Covent Garden earlier this year. For grand finale of the series, Nutcracker, *Le Marguerite* and *Armand*—complete and completely Ashton.

is an interesting bit of musical archaeology on Radio 3 this. In *The Original Madam Butterfly* (10.00 pm), Julian is demonstrating how much the version of Puccini's opera we hear today differs in both score and libretto from the that had its premiere in 1904 when Puccini flouted some strict conventions and incurred much critical disapproval. Extracts from the original score can be heard tonight in performances specially recorded by the Welsh National Opera; of them have not been heard since 1904.

is story at the heart of tonight's Monday play, *Livingstone* (Sechelle (Radio 4, 7.45) intrigues me and, after listening to it, I shall tune in to *Kaleidoscope* (Radio 4, 9.30) to hear its visiting critic's verdict against my own. David Powell is the play. Its central characters are David Livingstone and only man he ever converted, Africa, Sechelle, the chief of Crocodile People. In his story of their relationship, Michael examines the forces that turned Livingstone into an orator and Sechelle into a Christian, albeit a temporary one.

THE SYMBOLS MEAN: + STEREO; * BLACK AND WHITE; EPEAT.

Public and Educational Appointments also on page 18

DAVENANT FOUNDATION SCHOOL

CHESTER ROAD, LOUGHTON, ESSEX, IG10 2LD

Telephone number: Thetford 804280/8

(Voluntary Aided, maintained for Essex County Council)

Applications are invited from well-qualified and suitably experienced graduates for the post of:

DEPUTY HEAD

(GROUP 10)

SENIOR MASTER/MISTRESS

(GROUP 10)

AND

SENIOR MASTER/MISTRESS

(GROUP 10)

September 1980. The School of education's aims: two form entries into a school which has large Sixth Form, including some girls, but is developing as an 11-16 co-educational. Five form entries into a new Christian Ecumenical School, and will be admitting its first 5 P.E. students in January next. September from a wide range of backgrounds. Candidates should have held a year of responsibility and should be sympathetic to the aims and ethos of a Christian School. Armand is within easy access of Central London. Education terms and further particulars are obtainable from the Headmaster, Dr. G. D. Armand, Davenant Foundation School, 80 Chester Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 2LD. Applications to him as soon as possible but no later than the closing date, 28th January, 1980.

ST. HUGH'S COLLEGE OXFORD

British Petroleum Junior Research Fellowship in Enzyme Studies

The college invites applications for a Junior Research Fellowship in Enzyme Studies. The Fellow will be for a period of 12 months starting October 1980. The Fellow will be to work in the Enzyme Research Unit, the Fellow will be to carry out research in the field of enzyme chemistry or biochemistry; other things being equal, preference will be given to candidates intending to work on mono-oxygenases. Further particulars may be obtained in the application form on application applications should be submitted by 30th January 1980.

University of Liverpool

ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDY OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of:

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY ASSISTANT

In the Institute of Archaeology Studies for a period of 12 months, starting in February 1980. The successful candidate (age 21 and under) will be responsible for the recognition, plotting and mapping of archaeological features on existing photographic collections in the field of ancient history, the rate of £3,775 per annum.

Applications, together with the names of three referees, should be sent to the Registrar, The University, Liverpool, L69 3LY, by 20 December 1979.

Further particulars are obtainable from the Registrar, The University, Liverpool, L69 3LY, to whom applications should be returned not later than 18 January 1980.

GENERAL VACANCIES

PROJECT MANAGER (MFY)

10 weeks with expanding publishing company in Sloane Square. Duties include co-ordinating all aspects of the company's work, from £2,000,000+ contracts to £100,000+ contracts. Further details can be obtained from the managing director, 10 Bedford Place, London WC1B 3ED. Applications, with two names of referees, should be returned not later than 18 January 1980.

A PHYSICIST

Fourth Year, 2nd or 3rd year, Level 2, with a good honours degree and some scholarship work. Duties to play a part in the extra-curricular life of a research group. Further details can be obtained from the managing director, 10 Bedford Place, London WC1B 3ED. Applications, with two names of referees, should be returned not later than 18 January 1980.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davall

TELEVISION

BBC 1

12.45 pm News and weather.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: today's edition includes landscape expert Les Bailey's weekly item *Plan Your Land*.

1.45 Fingerbobs: Rich Jones with a story; *Palin* (r). Close down at 2.00.

2.15 Songs of Praise: repeat of yesterday's programme, from Brixton, London.

3.55 Play School: the story of The Many Mice of Mr Brice.

4.20 Touché Turfle: cartoon. Catch as Catch Can.

4.25 Jackanory: John Grant reads *Lilacine's Friend*—the story of a Neanderthal boy.

4.40 Three Gifts: for *Cinderella* and the three-part fairy tale, *Goldilocks* (r).

5.05 John's Newsround: junior newsround with Angela Rippon.

5.10 Blue Peter: the weekly magazine for children.

5.35 I've Seen the Engine: Oliver Postgate's story *Time Off* (r).

5.40 News: with Kenneth Kendall.

5.55 Nationwide: includes *City Worship*'s do-it-yourself feature, and Hugh Scully in the Cornish industrial village of St Dennis.

5.55 Angels: hospital series.

The rumours about the closure of the casualty unit persist. Includes a guest appearance by Sarah Sutton.

6.00 News: with Oliver Postgate's story *Time Off* (r).

6.10 Film: *Humphrey Bogart's Double*: talk about his new film *The Man with Bogart's Face*. Reviews include the Peter Serafini spoof on *The Prisoner of Zenda*, and *Top's* new movie. Also, film and television reviews.

6.15 The Week on 4: *BBC Sound Archives*.

6.20 News: with Oliver Postgate's story *Time Off* (r).

6.25 Start the Week.

6.30 News: with Oliver Postgate's story *Time Off* (r).

6.30 Letters from Everywhere.

6.35 News: with Oliver Postgate's story *Time Off* (r).

6.40 The Weather.

6.45 Saturday: *The Handman's Daughter* (1).

6.50 News: with Oliver Postgate's story *Time Off* (r).

6.55 The Solar System 70s.

6.55 Letters from Everywhere.

7.00 News: with Oliver Postgate's story *Time Off* (r).

7.05 The World at One.

7.10 The Archers.

7.15 News: with Oliver Postgate's story *Time Off* (r).

7.20 The Weather.

7.25 The World Tonight.

7.30 Comedy First.

7.35 Play Book.

7.45 Film: *Livingstone*.

7.50 Weather.

7.55 The Weather.

7.55 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

8.00 News: with Oliver Postgate's story *Time Off* (r).

8.05 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

8.10 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

8.15 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

8.20 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

8.25 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

8.30 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

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8.55 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

9.00 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

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12.00 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

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12.58 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

13.00 Scottish Baroque Ensemble.

13.0

SEAS

Vietnamese morale wavers as the Kampuchean end political sagreements to fight together

Neil Kelly
Thailand, Dec. 9.

Thailand is not pursuing its policy of creating difficulties for the 100,000 soldiers who are Kampuchean refugees in Thailand. The commander of the anti-communist forces confirmed that after putting aside their conflict to fight against the Vietnamese, the Prachak Sawangvong, leader of the second brigade which mans the frontier section of the border, said the low morale of economic troops and of logistics hampered their operations against skilled determined Kampuchean fighters.

Colonel Vong, a veteran of the Vietnam, added: "These ferocious soldiers from the front in Vietnam, we have the same spirit. We have captured some we come across, the and they say they don't fight in Kampuchea just want to go home." He drove 1,000 Vietnamese across the border after they had made an unauthorised incursion into

Mr. Vong, the leader of the group, says he hopes Prince Sihanouk, a

member of the

to curb
orism

in Phnom Penh, Dec. 9.

After taking office, Mr. Deneire's minority Government is to curb the rampaging violence in the country, the national

of Mr. Deneire's 14, over were taken up to meet him, but he still to the martial law administration across all 57 provinces. He also launched a programme which will solve an important of the country's problems first 100 days in

ess conference over end, Mr. Deneire's grim picture of the in Turkey. "This situation must end," promising more effective action against a dozen new laws financial aid to political violence to aimed at speeding up courses.

not be a state afraid of meeting out," Mr. Deneire said. "Mr. Buleen Ercan, democratic predecessor, been inefficient 22 months in power said, had seen the 444 people.

Reference to the violence which has passed since he came claiming some 120 weeks, he expressed at the murder of Mr. Deneire, on Friday.

He spoke of his introduce the state and enact a state law, but he said to try to obtain the of all the political Parliament before these matters.

he said, to get to political violence, the brain behind the of action. "We investigate, but, we found the swamp."

his Government, Turkey's relations, European community, the policy of his which resulted in of Turkey's ties. "This is a policy action," he said.

I stands
ce

Bhutto

Dec. 9.—The city defied the military today by the military's official demonstration support for Mr. Bhutto, executed Prime Minister of one of the municipal bodies of President Zia to restore democracy.

At first time today members present, all of 55, stood in five minutes after carefully worded

arent attempt to ban on political council praised Mr. Bhutto, chairman of the of Islamic held in Lahore 1974, and said that his conference was commemorated.

Representatives of the Com- munist Party, established in Hong Kong, have expressed approval privately of the shooting by the local police. The reinforced Chinese troops along the mainland, side of the border, are already shooting to kill.

The number of Chinese arrested this month has already reached almost 1,800, bringing the total of those forcibly returned to China this year to 78,255.

Brigadier Ian Christie, formerly of the King's Own Scottish Borderers, has now

the former head of state, will return soon to lead resistance to Vietnam.

Colonel Prachak described Vietnamese tactics as simultaneous sweeps north to south and south to north against Kampuchean in border areas. He thought those actions would force the Kampuchean into smaller groups in the next two months but would not stop them fighting on.

He said PAF forces were receiving supplies from ships in the extreme south-west but declined to elaborate. Western intelligence sources say China is still able to land supplies there.

Commanders of the two larger groups of Free Khmers inside Kampuchea opposite Phnom Penh, and of the Kampuchean Rouge further south, have formed an alliance. Mr. In Sakhao, the Free Khmer leader at Nang Sain, said today. This was partially confirmed by Mr. Mid Yon, the Khmer Rouge commander. The group can muster at least 15,000 armed men and more than 500,000 civilians.

Mr. In Sakhao, who appears to be the leader of the group, says he hopes Prince Sihanouk,

'Political retaliation opposed' in S Korea

From Peter Hazelhurst
Seoul, Dec. 9.

Mr. Kim Dae Jung, the South Korean opposition leader has declared that he will oppose any form of political retaliation against the supporters of the late President Park Chung Hee's regime if he is elected to power under a democratic political system.

Mr. Kim, who was released from prison earlier yesterday, also called on his supporters to remain calm and peaceful while the country waits for the uncertainties of wide-reaching political changes.

In a statement which diplomats described as "mature and responsible", Mr. Kim asked the country's newly elected leader, President Choi Kyu Hah, to release all political prisoners from detention and take immediate steps to elect a democratic form of government.

"But the people should also be generous. I believe we can only achieve a peaceful transfer of power through dialogue, peace and order. We are opposed to political retaliation. I follow the path of Mahatma Gandhi, not Khomoune," he said.

Lending his weight to the Government's plea for political restraint, the 54-year-old opposition leader said the nation had acted "with patience and maturity" since his former adversary, the late President, was assassinated on October 26.

"At the moment we should regard our national security and the maintenance of social order

as our most important objectives. Nothing can be achieved if we fail to achieve these objectives."

He gave a warning to the more impulsive supporters of the opposition who might take their political causes to the streets. "At no other time is unity and a move towards national reconciliation required as it is now. In turn the Government should take steps to redress the wrongs committed in the past year."

Mr. Kim said he welcomed the Government's decision to release all political prisoners from detention and take immediate steps to elect a democratic form of government.

"But the people should also be generous. I believe we can only achieve a peaceful transfer of power through dialogue, peace and order. We are opposed to political retaliation. I follow the path of Mahatma Gandhi, not Khomoune," he said.

Shots fired: North Korea fired warning shots when an American military helicopter flew over the North Korean sector of the demilitarized zone last Friday, the North Korean Central News Agency said today. It added that armed Americans infiltrated the North Korean portion of the zone southeast of Mount Taeodok.

Liberty in exchange for pledge renouncing subversion

Indonesia frees more prisoners

From David Wain
Jakarta, Dec. 9.

Indonesia continued its attempts to improve its human rights image with the release of a further batch of political prisoners. Yesterday 680 people were released here in the old Javanese capital, and the Government said that others were being freed in other centres.

The ceremony was a drab and military as the political which kept thousands of people in jail without trial, since the Communist coup attempt of 1965. It was only after the ceremony, held in an old British gymnasium hung with banners, proclaiming the same philosophy and beat advertisements, that the heart-rending human dimension of the military Government's detention policy began to break the ice. Families were reunited. One father saw his beautiful teenage daughter for the first time as she was born after his arrest.

The prisoners, in crisply pressed trousers and open shirts, sat in rows, chairs, the set declarations renouncing communism in blue folders on their knees, their faces expressionless.

Banked up behind them in the galleries were the families and friends of the detainees. The prisoners, 70 of them women, looked in excellent condition but their most of them have been doing hard physical work in agriculture or redevelopment work in outlying areas.

Opposite them, across the floor of the gymnasium, were the diplomatic representatives of 13 countries, including the ambassadors of Britain, Italy, Thailand and Finland.

Pledging to renounce communism, atheism and efforts to undermine the state and to up-

hold the state philosophy and the 1945 constitution, representatives from the four principal Indonesian religious stepped forward — Hindu, Christian, Muslim and Buddhist — to sign acceptance of the release on behalf of all the prisoners.

All prisoners must embrace a religion on their release and 90 per cent choose Christianity since it is the only faith which seeks to help prisoners while they are in detention.

Indonesian political prisoners are in four categories. In group "A" are those against whom there is evidence sufficient for trial. The majority of these have already been tried. Category "B" prisoners have been held on suspicion, with insufficient evidence to bring them to court, while in C category were those arrested because they belonged to communists affiliated organisations.

There are prisoners who have never been put into any classification and for whom there appears to be little prospect of freedom.

The majority of the political prisoners have been held since September 30, 1965, when, the Government claims, the two million strong Communist Party attempted a coup. Others consider it more accurate to say that one clique of generals was behind the coup.

Whatever the truth, in the ensuing purge 750,000 people were arrested and between 500,000 and a million people killed.

Those freed in Jakarta formed part of a total of 2,045 "B" category prisoners released by the Government. The rest of the prisoners were being freed in Jakarta, Ambawara and on the islands of Buru and Nusa Tenggara.

According to Admiral

Sudomo, head of Kopkamli, the internal security organization, there were 2,211 political prisoners still in detention last week. He said that of those 38 had been reclassified or sentenced, 23 "A" category prisoners would be tried as soon as possible, and 105 "B" category prisoners who had so far refused to make the necessary pledges to the Government would be freed by Christmas.

The admiral said that this group would be freed regardless of whether or not they had renounced their ideology.

Among these are Ananta Tur, the famous Indonesian novelist, and Mr. Supit, formerly of the Central Committee of the Indonesian Communist Party.

The admiral added that they would be under close supervision on their release and would be re-arrested if they became involved in any agitation.

All the released prisoners must report to the authorities in their districts and ask permission to vote in any future elections but not to stand as candidates.

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pressed trousers and open shirts, sat in rows, chairs, the set declarations renouncing communism in blue folders on their knees, their faces expressionless.

Rain ruins Golden Triangle's opium crop

From Richard Hughes
Hong Kong, Dec. 9.

Torrential rain in the poverty-stricken "Golden Triangle" which straddles Thailand, Burma and Laos, has destroyed this year's expected bumper crop of opium and heroin.

Mr. Peter Le, Hong Kong's Commissioner for Narcotics, forecast happily, after a visit to Bangkok, that the former average crop of between 450 and 500 tons of opium will shrink again this year to an estimated 150 tons.

The drop in production means that Pakistan and Afghanistan, which now grow sufficient opium to produce more than 55,000 tons of heroin annually, will continue to monopolize the illicit supply of drugs channelled through Iran and Turkey to West Europe and Britain.

Officials of the Anti-Narcotics Bureau in Hong Kong also predict that the Pakistan-Afghanistan region will supply the United States with most of its heroin next year, after a cutback in supplies smuggled

to the United States by the "Golden Triangle" group.

Mr. Le said: "The poor harvest in the

"Golden Triangle" will add to the inflation of heroin prices in South-East Asia. In August the Hong Kong price was HK\$7,150 (650) per 100 grams; in September it was HK\$22,900.

The jump in prices was also attributable to the establishment of a stronger and more efficient anti-narcotics surveillance in Hong Kong. Before the creation of joint police and customs investigations at Hong Kong's port in 1976, the price for 100 grams of heroin was only HK\$7,700.

There is also close liaison between anti-narcotics authorities throughout South-East Asia and Japan, and three senior Hong Kong officials recently visited Australia to study new legislation and surveillance measures

being adopted there.

The unique United Nations campaign supported personally and financially by King Bhumibol of Thailand, to offer grants to opium-growers in north-east Thailand if they change to other crops, is not being promoted. But local acceptance is still sluggish.

The world drug problem remains non-racial and non-political.

"Soviet Russia is stepping up its hidden authority in Afghanistan to try to stifle opium production", a Western diplomat in Hong Kong pointed out.

"Moscow has successfully crushed local drug-smuggling and addiction and is now far more worried about vodka and whisky than opium and heroin."

"Here, surely, there could be a sincere, mutually defensive, anti-heroin basis for world co-operation between Moscow, Peking, Tokyo, and even Iran."

social boundaries. But the very diversity of the opposition movement puts them automatically at a disadvantage in trying to influence the procedures by which decisions are made about the scale of technical and financial investment in atomic energy are made.

Further development of nuclear power necessarily means increasing the exposure of the population to radiation in varying amounts. When the industry emerged in the 1950s from its origins in defence work, the possibility of a threat from the accumulation of small amounts of radiation in the atmosphere and in the food chain from the use of atomic energy for power generation had not received much consideration.

There is strong opposition to the adoption of the pressurized water type of reactor (PWR) for the majority of new power stations. It will be able to meet the requirements of the Government by the year 2000. Many assumptions are made in reaching that figure.

In this way the increased production of Britain's coal mines will be able to meet the requirements of the Government by the year 2000. Many assumptions are made in reaching that figure.

Nevertheless, if contracts could be arranged with the cheap coal producers in Australia, South Africa and South America and the necessary port facilities built in this country, it might

be possible, if at an economic sacrifice, and a sacrifice of some self-sufficiency, to do without the expansion of nuclear power. For most industrial customers, electricity is less than 2 per cent of total costs.

There are two alternative ways other than nuclear, to fill the energy gap which will develop in 2000. They are not mutually exclusive. One is to import liquified natural gas. The other is to import more coal.

Supplies of natural gas could be plentiful. Only about 10 per cent of the world's supplies have been exploited, but for the most part, reserves are found in the same oil producing countries of the Middle East which are threatened by the USSR.

It is both a good and a bad time to announce a commitment to the expansion of nuclear power. The Government has already, after a visit to Bangkok, that the former average crop of between 450 and 500 tons of opium will shrink again this year to an estimated 150 tons.

The drop in production means that Pakistan and Afghanistan, which now grow sufficient opium to produce more than 55,000 tons of heroin annually, will continue to monopolize the illicit supply of drugs channelled through Iran and Turkey to West Europe and Britain.

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Nicholas Hirst and Pearce Wright look towards the Government's imminent nuclear power statement

Going for the nuclear option

Before Parliament rises for the

Christmas recess, Mr. David Howell, the Secretary of State for Energy, will make his long-awaited statement on nuclear policy. It should be as carefully constructed a piece of propaganda as this Government had yet uttered, needing on the one hand to satisfy the nuclear industry that it has a real future, and yet to seem sufficiently cautious to give as little ammunition to the anti-nuclear lobby.

It will be needed as offshore supplies decline, and other industrial and premium uses.

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Gloucester
Spirit 1
pulls Liverpool through
humble nose in
quit

By Fox

respondent
had the spent Crystal
savers relaxed in the
of victory over the
ampions, Nottingham
sellers, 1-0. Said
their manager, Terry
as talking about the
Liverpool Bent Sam
on Forest was not
, but the last week
clear that Liverpool
unconscious.

played Norwell City's
in the way, emerged Aston Villa by
could have been more
an 3-1. At Selhurst
rifford, Molneus and
Venable had
completely won
at result put all others
e. Mr Venable was
spokesman for all the
team he would
be told "he would
team of the team and
to Afield."

place were denied the
manager, or a well-
. Their 1-0 win
was made possible by
goal that Shilton
members of course
was finished by
ambitious first-half
organized defensive
to Forest's recent
, the match score
, the players
to be allowed to
attack forced Palace
rapid holding action in
and Gilbert were
against Birds and
is adequate encouragement
Forest's management
in Clough and Peter
agreed that an improve-
under way. Mr Taylor
is associated with
the team the performances were manage-



The ball goes through Shilton's legs and over the line, helped there by Walsh (No 9), with the defence defenceless.

of extra marksman nal's missing spark

By Green

strange residence in
burry this season came
and on Saturday. It
City who ran into
Arsenal won 3-1. Yet
ould have been doubled
a brave goalkeeping by
some pueril mistakes
et and Rix.

ernally conceded, even
ay through the season,
will prevent Liverpool
the title, the media
Even so, Arsenal re-
is living fourth
and still alive in
the Football League
ever, a question mark
Arsenal's future in
. Can when the
window Town in a
west country tomorrow
circularly now that the
sion club enjoyed the
re banner over the
the

all their players up
a little disturbing that
we developed into a
balanced side, capable
after themselves in
the only four goals con-
the past 11 league
by Arsenal's record
-brained left-footed
-who control the
the rhythm, and
patterns. If only the
find a similar side they
leng Liverpool to the
the

expect since Brady, for
exceptional creation.
clearly learn much at
the master. Indeed, he
on this day as he
is passed far and wide
by the media, he
his described, the
the hub of the Arsenal

playmakers stifled in unreal spectacle

cial Correspondent

ish League Cup final, the
lashed goalless after extra
lumped Park, was for
time in years in the
the absence of either
or Celtic. A further
and not entirely cor-
that the crowd
was the lower ever
up final, the last to
since 1961, with that
making history as the
not played at Hampden.
he match, the record
and the last of the
of the old firm in pro-
, and Jim McLean's
cademy, searching for
mited his big honour
to 1977. The match
edge a titanic fear, or
did not materialise, for
managers acutely aware
strength and weak-
wavers emerged whereby
ive playmakers, Strachan
died. Payne in
stifled, on the day. Aher-
had taken the cup
and only the boot of
in the first half and a
off the line by Narey

A glitter to go down in history books

By Stuart Jones

Of the 44 goals scattered like
Christmas trees across the third
division on Saturday, one, in par-
ticular, shone with history. It
came from the side of Sutton's
Gerry. It itself may not be
remembered, but it was the
United's first strike in the first
minute of their first visit to
Plough Lane. It marked their first
goal against Wimbledon and, to
complete the set, it took them
back to first place.

Sheridan, though, secured the
opportunity to join the high-
flying rivals and settled for a
1-1 draw. As Wimbledon are
almost out of sight at the
opposite end of the table, it
seemed a curiously short-sighted
view of the play to reinforce
the notion that they had
nothing to do but sit if they
overlook seven clear chances.

With exiles from Argentina,
the Netherlands, Dundee, North-
hampton, Forest, Arsenal and Totten-
ham on the side, Sutton's
not short of skill either, but
they had to do so but not if they
overlook seven clear chances.

While Arsenal were still
playing a big, they were brought to
earth when Sutton immediately
danced clear of the other end
for Goding to shoot home for
2-1. That was the last of the
day's goals, and the last of the
all 18 goals and 18 under a techni-
cal sky of shooting, pink
O'Leary rolled in a corner by
Kerr to seal the affair as flights of
higher up, arrowed their way to
some far destination. It was
the last of the day, and the last
of the season.

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ENTERTAINMENTS

8 SPORT

Gymnastics

On balance
Miss Kim
is without
parallel

Fort Worth, Dec 9.—The Soviet gymnast, Nelli Kim, who captured most of much attention as Nastia Comaneci at the Montreal Olympics, won the world championship here last night while her Romanian rival recovered from surgery on a hand abscess.

Miss Kim's ballistic technique and command of balance brought in a consistent 9.85 out of 10 in all of the four exercises for a total 76.65 out of 80. The absence of Miss Comaneci and the defending champion, Elena Shishikina, reduced the challenge.

Miss Comaneci underwent surgery to drain a cellulitis infection—an inflammation of connective tissue—in her right hand at Salt Lake City last night. The cellulitis condition began as an infection in a hair follicle and became localized into an abscess.

The Romanian was admitted to the hospital on Wednesday evening for treatment and was released only hours before she competed in only one of the four women's optional events on Thursday. She was due to return to the hospital immediately after the medal ceremony, where her team took the gold, but she did not check in again. Asked whether her failure to return had contributed to the worsening of her condition, the spokesman said: "Her American physician had requested she come back, but she did not."

The news reached the Romanian team doctor, Liviu Boer, and the coach, Bela Karolyi all



Nelly Kim: Ballerina grace captures title.

said on Friday that there should be no problem about her return despite her infection. The team of Miss Comaneci does appear in the Olympics, out of her top rivals will be East Germany's Maxi Graack, who earned a medal in the women's group all-around competition three years ago, a point behind Kim. Miss Graack is the first woman to do a triple body twist in floor exercise and was rewarded by one of her two 9.5 scores.

Alexandre Dilitin, of the Soviet Union, won the men's world championship by a fraction of a point from Koenraad Thiebaert, of United States, Alexander Tschirner, of the Soviet Union, came a close third. Missing from the competition was their compatriot, Nikolai Andrianov, defending

champion, and men's gold medalist at the 1976 Montreal Olympics, who did not qualify for the final.

The Soviet Union won the team gold medal on Wednesday, including the Japanese, who have not won in 20 years. But the Americans were the gymnasium who have shown the most improvement. Thomas was the team's highest scorer also at the 1976 Montreal Olympics, St. Louis, finishing sixth.

MIN: Individual: 1. A. Dilitin (Soviet Union), 7.00; 2. K. Thiebaert (Belgium), 6.97; 3. V. Mihail (U.S.S.R.), 6.95; 4. A. Tschirner (Soviet Union), 6.93; 5. K. Boer (Romania), 7.7; 6. V. Cerna (Czechoslovakia), 7.6.

Racing

Winter gives unreserved verdict on Midnight Court

By Michael Phillips

Racing Correspondent

Crucial days these for a number of horses who could be destined for the Ascot Gold Cup this season. And none more so than the 1979 Gold Cup winner, Midnight Court, whose reputation will be at stake at Ascot on Saturday when he runs in the second of his consecutive races and his trainer, Fred Winter, goes to great lengths to stress its importance when discussing Midnight Court and his future.

Yesterday he told me that he would not consider running Midnight Court in the King George VI Stakes at Kempton Park on Boxing Day if he did not please him next Saturday. And Winter was far from pleased, which was why that horse had run at Huntingdon towards the end of last month. What disappointed him more than anything was how indolent and disinterested Midnight Court appeared to be.

It was not, he said, because he was fit for five months during his lay-off and was not at all fit when he was, but whatever the reason I was down overnight dismasted. Winter had me to say that we were taking the problem created by injury.

Winter went on to say that

he has shuffed a lot of work, to use his own words, into Midnight Court since Huntingdon and that he had done the driving since last Saturday morning.

It was double sure Winter actually rode in that gallop and towards the end he saw was Midnight Court's backview as he and John Francome drew steadily further and further ahead.

Winter was delighted with the way that Ratcouchen ran at Cheltenham on Saturday in what was his first race for 25 months and he argues with some justification that it makes even normal improvement difficult to picture him in the hunt in the Champion Hurdle. In the circumstances the Tote are offering against him winning might not be bad value.

As far as Venture to Cognac is concerned, while obviously being disappointed at his falling at Kempton Park on Saturday, Winter was not dismayed. The horse returned home now in worse for the experience and more or less should be expected if he is given a run again at Ascot on Saturday in the Kilnsey Novices Stakes.

All in all Ascot should be well worth a visit, because if present plans are

Motor racing

Renault and Williams put designs to the test

By John Blunden

Two teams who are expected to be in the forefront of grand prix racing next season—Renault and Williams—are flexing their muscles this week on opposite sides of the Atlantic. While Renault have begun a week of testing at Imola, Italy, with their newest car, the Renault RS10, the Williams team have taken the latest challenger to France for three days of tests on the Paul Ricard circuit.

From Brazil, Renault will move on to Argentina for another of tests at Buenos Aires, where the 1980 world championship season will begin on January 12.

Renault's test programme is being carried out in collaboration with Michelin, which team's team, Ferrari, is the other team to have a major programme in the Americas. Williams, who have joined the Williams team in South America, are the latest to test in France. The Williams tests in France are being conducted by the greatest secrecy, with perimeter guards on duty to prevent anyone from getting near the track. Renault say that without a similar facility, which exposed a weakness in the fifth gear of their previous model, running at 200 mph for two periods (only possible at Le Mans) they probably would not have won the 24 hours race.

The test house has exposed the team's desire to "over-engineer" the engine to recreate the demands of a race track. Renault say that without a similar facility, which exposed a weakness in the fifth gear of their previous model, running at 200 mph for two periods (only possible at Le Mans) they probably would not have won the 24 hours race.

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The test house

HE ARTS

Welsh enterprise on the highroads

narrow Welsh National Opera begins a five-day season in London at the National Theatre. It will be the company's first visit to London since 1965, though we have had several excursions to Sadler's Wells Theatre in the following decade. In those days WNO was welcomed in performances of *Verdi's Nabucco* (which never, however, regarded as an object lesson to a certain London opera house in terms of integrity of purpose, general competence), *William Tell*, *La Bohème*, *Die Walküre*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Die Zauberflöte* and *Roberto*. The repertory was attraction.

first went in 1950 to see WNO. There were a few soloists, all Welsh, the principals all local tenors. The Turiddu aged a hotel, the eloquent Neto was a postoffice near, one mezzo soloist ran his shop, the producer Gounod's *Mephistopheles*, second conductor counted and the founder and man Bill Smith of *Verdi's Nabucco*, who kept the cashbox, used to go on as an extra in *Carmen*. Very now famous singers their operatic teeth with WNO, among them Josephine Barroso, Thomas Allen, Pasley and Michaelson. One important year 1969 when for the investiture of the Prince of Wales staged Verdi's *Fafnir*, an all-Welsh cast led by John Evans, singing not in Welsh (nor Welsh) but an shortly afterwards the role was taken over by Gobbi (some say at his request, out of admiration for the company). The 1970s have carried WNO into the seven-league. In 1971 they were the British company to stage *La Luna* (in English) a double achievement due to the new complete form. In the WNO first toured and, with success, then proliferating. 1976

William Martin

moments in the three Faure songs chosen. But to enjoy them fully one would have had to divorce the musical line entirely from its poetic context. The final phrase of "Clair de lune" is an arpeggio figure descending through the octave, on the surface similar to a cadence figure for, say, Leonardo in *Fidelio* (a Crepin role); in fact, the phrase should evoke a tall slender fountain in the imagined world of the *jeux galante*. Crepin's rendering was closer to Beethoven than Faure.

Perhaps the most successful moment in the recital was Debussy's *Trois chansons de Bilitis*. In these there was freedom of rhythm and attention to detail without resort to hypnosis. There were other good things too: the broader side of Liszt's "Die drei Zigeuner" and the folk-style of Brahms's "Vergesdörfer Schindler". (Crepin the opera singer scored here) were both handled finely enough.

For devotees of the Lied and Melodie, nor a happy evening, though Régine Crespin's many admirers were unimpaired in their enthusiasm.

Ient Mariner
ing Vic

ig Wardle

as Bogdanov's singing of

the piano come as odd, it's few original characters and the range of Mr Bogdanov, who excels in showing things happening and transforming poetic into scenic images. On his stage night does indeed come in a single strike.

The sea creatures rise phosphorescently from the darkness; the albatross sinks trembling to the deck—effects achieved with no more than a few silk scarves and a fishing rod. The acrobatic and vocal corps falls silent at the moment of the shooting, leaving the young mariner (Frederick Warden) to polish his crossbow and whistle a shanty in the dreadful surrounding silence.

before, the method can of entrusting the text to a or, and amplifying it in dance, pantomime and all resources of scenology. The experience in case is like reading a page by flashes of light.

start with the wedding and a bridal dance to a of penny whistles: in the first of the in Marenghi's apocalypse changes, the dance play-

for Today

1

ley Reynolds

"Irene is a real writer and

"Bob" is a real play-

"I'm a highly stylized

"full of verbal fireworks

"characters talking in a

"int rapid-fire manner

"you would never hear in

"life. While you were laughing

"at this BBC television you could not help

"if the real soulful

"hearted centre of the

"was not being lost some-

"lost, as well, in a

"Glasgow dialect. On stage

"Bob" was a great suc-

"one wonders if players

"better than television

"ears.

"thing, or rather listening,

"The Slab Boys—for this is

"a verbal play—several

"around me said: they

"did not understand what was

"said. I think it was their

"anyway The Slab Boys set

"was riotously funny

"I wish those great sad

"that pull you in short

"page are reprinted from Fri-

"and Saturday's later editions.



Cricket: pen drawing for Radio Times, c.1949

A catchy flair for life's absurdities

Modish eye-brows were raised at the suggestion this site, year's Christmas exhibition at the Scottish Arts Council's gallery. Ardizzone's *Coronation of Poppies* should be devoted to conventional representation of his work as an official war artist. But the new rendering of the work, given Jarry's production of *The Magic Flute*, has certain similarities with the current Covent Garden production of Mozart's opera, for example the treatment of the Priests. Verdi is splendidly represented on the Gala Night by *Ernani*, staged simply but grandly by Edoardo Mortara. Joachim Herz's production of *Madam Butterfly* (Friday) brings for the first time to London the full original version of Puccini's opera—an interpretation which treats the drama in depth. The final production of the year, *Tristan und Isolde* conducted and musically prepared by Reginald Goodall, London's senior Wagnerite.

The 1980 season outside London promises the addition to WNO's repertory of Monte-Verdi's *Coronation of Poppies* and Dvořák's *Jacobin*, as well as Tchaikovsky's *One Night in May*, followed by the tour of East Germany. Further off are Verdi's *Forza del destino*, produced by Joachim Herz, a *Fidelio* produced by Henry King-Jones' *House of the Dead*, and from 1982 a complete Ring. This London season is only a crossroads as "handmarks" go.

With Ardizzone, though, an analysis of themes is not particularly rewarding (even though no one can surely have treated the "lovers surprised" motif with greater hilarity). For what this exhibition also shows is a quality of vision and technique that transcends the routine nature of the genres. As Ardizzone would surely have been the first to admit, he is above all else an illustrator, and these pictures have the fluent suggestion of things going on that is the hallmark of great illustration. The children who dispense themselves at cricket on the green, in a variety of activities, in water-colour, pen and ink, in a variety of black ink—children, soldiers, and, in one surviving corner, terracotta modelling. Nor are these subjects the only ones. One of the finds of the exhibition is the set of three

almost Blauean watercolours of scenes from *The Pilgrim's Progress* (a seminal book for Ardizzone), and there is also substantial representation of his work as an official war artist. But

No flickering lights or raw bricks, but frames after frame of quiet watercolours depicting the absurdities of everyday life keep breaking in: a batman hearing off the padre's boots, Dad's Army emerging from a wood in incompetent camouflage 25 years before the ever did it on BBC 1.

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but as settings for incidents about which stories can be told.

From the earliest examples of Ardizzone's work here, such as the richly composed, comic *Rake's Progress* of 1931, to the easy confident pastoral of his

resuscitation in Kent, the humane touch of the illustrations is foremost. (How instructive, for instance, to contrast his movingly observed family groups in the Underground shelters during the war with Henry Moore's highly charged painter's treatment of the same theme.) And, placed alongside his book illustrations, this range of pictures bears out the credo to which he worked as "born illustrator"—showing how he learned "the right way to draw things, rather than the particular way to draw a particular thing", pointing up actually with anecdotal invention.

Something of Ardizzone's philosophy as an artist, and much of his quality as an illustrator, can also be gleaned from a recent study of his work by his brother-in-law Gabriel White, Edward Ardizzone (The Bodley Head, £12.50). Mr White, long involved in the arts, is not a elements in a drawing done for Radio Times, but part of a scene that might have continued in action. The puffs and street scenes proliferate not as a record of architecture or human abandon

voluminous sketchbooks, the work for commercial firms and magazines and the delightful illustrated letters, it nicely complements the more formal view of the artist that we get in the exhibition.

Fingertip it is designed to be a copious pictorial record, with more than 250 black and white illustrations and 11 colour plates, and these have been cunningly slotted in to the text to support, and even expand, upon Mr White's commentary. Taken in conjunction with the evidence at Edinburgh they bear witness not just to Edward Ardizzone's amazing energy as a draughtsman but to an exactness of line and an economy of expression that assure him a place high in the tradition of English art. Looking at an advance copy of Gabriel White's book just before he died, he is reported to have said "I've made it need no do another drawing again". But, I am finding no fault with Ardizzone's adaptors, who did their perfectly competent best with their particular section of a book that could never be right, or with the actors, who did their remarkable best with grimly unremarkable parts, or with the various directors, who did their very best with the actors. You can not make silk purses out of sow's ears, even on television. *Pennmaric*, set in the extraordinary Gothic mansion (Devon, I believe, not Cornwall and Devon is to Cornwall as Australia is to New Zealand, different. Does nobody know?) with its disagreeable, greedy, cruel characters, has had nothing to say for itself, or us.

It has done well enough in the ratings, which makes matters worse. Some nobility of purpose must be evident in the actions of those in charge of the mind of millions, for that is what it amounts to. I see none here.

Attractive ballet to Rossini

Cinderella
Aberdeen

John Percival

There are to be three *Cinderella* ballets by British companies this month; the extent to which they differ in approach is shown

by their choreographers having chosen music by three different composers. The Scottish Ballet have got in first. Their production, premiered at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, on Friday, has choreography by Peter Darrell to music by Rossini.

His opera *La Cenerentola* was naturally the starting point, but Beaumain Tovey, the company's music director, soon suggested that it would be more satisfactory to choose only the most suitable pieces from it, supplementing them with a ballet from one of Rossini's operas for the real-life scenes and orchestrated versions of some of Rossini's late piano music for the fantasy episodes.

The outcome is a lively and attractive score, with some unfamiliar music and some that brings a warm glow of recognition. At first hearing, I thought parts of Act 1 less happily chosen than the rest but, on rehearsing my reservations were dispelled except for the opening.

The overture and first scene are a little too busy and messy. Darcie, into some fussy entries for the servants preparing the masked ball.

Again with the opera as starting point, the plot is less farcical and contains more human interest than most stage treatments of the subject. Cinderella even receives an invitation to the ball but her stepmother thinks her not grand enough to go. Luckily there is a good fairy who, first prompts Prince Ramiro to exchange masks with his equerry, Dandini, then sends Cinderella off to the party, where she alone recognizes the real prince's quality at first sight.

The ball is the prettiest of John Fraser's pleasing designs: a terrace shaded by trees where the guests in their fancy dress resemble beautiful insects. The costumes throughout have a touch of the old-fashioned pretension and fantasy seen in productions of late Victorian and Edwardian ballets. Very handsomely they are too.

But the jokes were cruel, this was tough, hard humour with everyone stripped to the bone, the comic cutout masks dropped away revealing a reality which seemed in the end more real than the bogus reality of the naturalistic play.

In the end, Phil is sacked and has not won a place at art school. It was his only escape route. Whether he would be accepted was the basic plot. All day, he waited for a telephone call from the art college. And during that day the Slab Boys mess about, playing jokes on one another, making fun of the boss, Willie (Tom Watson), the phony military man; another comic stereotype.

But the jokes were cruel, this was tough, hard humour with everyone stripped to the bone, the comic cutout masks dropped away revealing a reality which seemed in the end more real than the bogus reality of the naturalistic play.

In the end, Phil is sacked and has not won a place at art school, while his mates, Spanky (Gerald) and Hector (Joseph McKenna), have conformed, settled in the firm, and are, we know, going to knuckle under in it for the next 40 years.

But the jokes were cruel, this was tough, hard humour with everyone stripped to the bone, the comic cutout masks dropped away revealing a reality which seemed in the end more real than the bogus reality of the naturalistic play.

In the end, Phil is sacked and has not won a place at art



Elaine McDonald as Cinderella dressed for the ball

departure soon afterwards. The disguised Dandini receives treacherous looks from the flower girl, who lets fall, but Ramiro's flower girl gives him his flower, and the flower girl brings them together at last.

Darrell tells the simple story clearly, with tenderness as well as humour, and has the care to pack the action full of dancing. As well as solos for all the principals, including the beautiful but nasty stepmothers, there is a showpiece ballet of birds as entertainment at the ball; and the good fairy is accompanied by a corps de ballet of fireflies when she descends through Cinderella's chimney-piece and dew fairies when they go off to live happily ever after in the land of eternal dawn (the best of Fraser's transformation scenes).

Norko Ohara makes a gently romantic Cinderella, enchantingly overwhelmed by her good fortune. Her quietness is set in relief by Kit Lethby's dashing account of Ramiro, ardently in love and brilliant in his sole.

Vincent Hantram is Dandini in that cast; a young dancer of exceptional gifts. His way with a bravura solo is already familiar, and here he shows that he can play a character, too.

Among the other dancers, Wendy Roe stood out for the naughty spiciness of her playing as one of the wicked stepmothers on Friday and for the generous warmth of her good fairy on Saturday. But on each occasion the strength of the baller lay in its ensemble playing as well as in its individual performances, and the steadily growing strength of the Scottish Ballet at all levels was gratifyingly in evidence.

Two equally good casts on successive nights got the production off to a fine start. Elaine McDonald is as touching and delicate in her acting as her love diet she, and Ramiro dances while the party is at

the end, and her partner, the flower girl, is exquisitely pretty in

Il barbiere di Siviglia
Royal Northern College of Music

Stanley Sadie

The Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester has a fine theatre seating over 600 in its comfortable, steeply raked auditorium, with an excellently equipped stage. It is not to be wondered at that its opera department flourishes, as indeed Londoners have twice seen for themselves during RNCM seasons of twentieth-century operas at Sadler's Wells. This term's choice was an eighteenth-century opera, Paisiello's *Barber*, composed in 1782, one of the great successes of its day and in a sense the progenitor of two far greater comic operas.

Paisiello's *Barber*, so basically the same text as Rossini's, is less broad, more stylized in its humour: the comparison provides an interesting lesson in social history. Malcolm Fraser's staging found an apt style for a student production, based on a set, by John Pascoe, of uncommon ingenuity. Dr Bartolo's home is presented as a pair of two-storey towers, one seven-sided, one eleven-sided, linked at the upper level; the double edifice is mounted on a revolve, and each tower has panel sides which can be swing open when they face the audience. In them we see elaborately dressed rooms in a modern gaudy rococo manner. It is not so much functional as simply fun: the scenes changing on the stairs and across the corridor, and the interchanges up and down between one tower and the other, set the production's tone.

It works happily, harmonizing with the prettiness and the gentle frivolity of Paisiello's score. Without Rossini's density or Rossini's brilliance, it is lively, tuneful, graceful music; the lovers in particular have charming things to sing among them Almaviva's serenade, Rosina's affecting aria at the end of Act I—very much like an adolescent "Porgi Amor" and a very attractive Lesson Scene, garnished with some delightful writing for clarinets and bassoons.

The largely student cast were amply good enough to make something of the work, and all moved deftly on the stage. Alison Barlow phrased Rosina's music with real style and charm, producing round, sweet and even tone, and as Almaviva Mark Curtis showed a warm, ardent tenor, eloquent enough in his pleas to turn any head. With careful and sympathetic conducting from David Jordan, and competent if not sparkling orchestral playing, it was a good, encouraging evening.

Weekend television

South Bank Show

LWT

Michael Ratcliffe

"The RSC does not have a house style," declared Trevor Nunn firmly, "even though it has been accused of it". Well, it all depends what you mean by a house style. Even those who have never attended Royal Shakespeare performances at Stratford or the Aldwych will watch Nunn, John Barton and Terry Hands taking RSC actors through this special workshop for the South Bank Show—first hour last night, second next Sunday—will not fail to observe a more or less common approach to the speaking and interpretation of Shakespearean verse.

It is characterized by a search for the meaning of the lines through punctuation of the syntax, through the use of sense over sound. Look after the sense, says Ian McKellen next week, taking

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